

House Resolution 1496

By: Representatives Smith of the 131st, Smith of the 129th, Hugley of the 133rd, Buckner of the 130th, and Smyre of the 132nd

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Celebrating Columbus State University's 50th anniversary; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Columbus State University started as Columbus College in 1958; and
- 3 WHEREAS, the college was started at the behest of local community leaders who went to
4 the state and requested an institution of higher learning in Columbus; and
- 5 WHEREAS, the first classes at the new college were held at the renovated Shannon Hosiery
6 Mill on Talbotton Road with 15 faculty members and nearly 300 students; and
- 7 WHEREAS, the college moved to its current location in 1963, and the campus now
8 encompasses more than 150 acres and serves more than 7,500 students; while most of the
9 students are from Georgia, there a growing number of international students; and
- 10 WHEREAS, in 1965, the Board of Regents approved the college's application to become a
11 four-year institution, and the first four-year class graduated in 1970; and soon after, master
12 and specialist degrees were added; and
- 13 WHEREAS, community support has been vital to the growth of CSU and, combined with
14 state funding, has provided modern facilities and state of the art equipment; and
- 15 WHEREAS, the college now offers 85 programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels,
16 several of which that have achieved national accreditation, including business, education,
17 nursing, and the arts; and
- 18 WHEREAS, Columbus State University has been a vital ingredient for the growth and
19 vitality of southwest Georgia, with an annual economic impact of about \$175 million and
20 more than 10,000 alumni living in the area; and

1 WHEREAS, CSU has helped revitalize downtown Columbus by developing a downtown fine
2 and performing arts campus with state of the art facilities that have attracted national
3 attention; and

4 WHEREAS, private donors in Columbus and throughout the country recently contributed a
5 total of \$100 million to CSU, allowing the university to purchase its own residence in
6 Oxford, England, and open about a dozen different buildings in downtown Columbus; and

7 WHEREAS, Columbus State University will be celebrating its 50th anniversary throughout
8 2008, highlighted with several signature events to involve the community, the university
9 family, and alumni.

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
11 the members of this body join in the celebration of the 50th anniversary of Columbus State
12 University, congratulate it on its past accomplishments, and look forward to its continuing
13 success and achievement on the state and national levels.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
15 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Columbus State University.